

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 24th November 1883.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
Fortnightly.				
1	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong ...	653	16th November 1883.
2	"Purva Pratidhwani"	Ditto ...	474	
3	"Tripurá Vártavaha"	Comillah ...	.....
4	"Prem Pracháriní"	Nawabgunge, Barrack-pore.	.....
Weekly.				
5	"Alok"	Calcutta	19th ditto. 16th ditto. 17th ditto.
6	"Ananda Bazar Patriká"	Ditto ...	700	
7	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto ...	150	
8	"Bangabási"	Ditto ...	8,500	
9	"Bártabaha"	Pubna	13th ditto. 19th ditto. 18th ditto. 9th & 16th November 1883. 10th & 17th ditto.
10	"Bhárat Bandhu"	Calcutta ...	.....
11	"Bhárat Hitaishí"	Burrisal ...	450	
12	"Bharat Mihir"	Mymensingh ...	713	
13	"Bardwán Sanjivani"	Burdwan ...	282	
14	"Cháruvártá"	Sherepore, Mymensingh	529	
15	"Dacca Prakash"	Dacca ...	526	
16	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly ...	745	
17	"Grámvártá Prakashiká"	Comercolly ...	267	

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI—concluded.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
18	"Halisahar Prakāshikā"	Calcutta	.....	17th November 1883.
19	"Hindu Ranjikā"	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	200	14th ditto.
20	"Jātiya Suhrid"	Calcutta	700	
21	"Medini"	Midnapore	.....	15th ditto.
22	"Murshidābād Patrikā"	Berhampore	418	
23	"Murshidābād Pratinidhi"	Ditto	.....
24	"Navavibhākar"	Calcutta	850	19th ditto.
25	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet	421	11th ditto.
26	"Prajā Bandhu"	Chandernagore	287	
27	"Pratikār"	Berhampore	275	16th ditto.
28	"Rajshahye Samvād"	Beauleah	.....
29	"Rungpore Dik Prakāsh"	Kakiniā, Rungpore	220	
30	"Sādharani"	Chinsurah	500	18th ditto.
31	"Sahachar"	Calcutta	500	14th ditto.
32	"Samaya"	Ditto	.....	19th ditto.
33	"Sanjivani"	Ditto	.....	17th ditto.
34	"Sāraswat Patra"	Dacca	.....
35	"Shakti"	Calcutta	.....	15th & 22nd November 1883.
36	"Som Prakāsh"	Changripottā, 24-Perghs.	.....	19th November 1883.
37	"Sulabha Samāchar"	Calcutta	3,000	17th ditto.
38	"Surabhi"	Deoghur	.....	12th & 19th November 1883.
39	"Udbodhan"	Calcutta	.....
<i>Daily.</i>				
40	"Dainik Vartā"	Hoogli	.....
41	"Samvad Prabhākar"	Calcutta	250	14th to 19th ditto.
42	"Samvād Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto	300	16th & 20th to 22nd ditto.
43	"Samachār Chandrikā"	Ditto	625	14th to 22nd ditto.
44	"Banga Vidyā Prakāshikā"	Ditto	500	
45	"Prabhāti"	Ditto	500	15th & 17th to 20th ditto.
ENGLISH AND URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
46	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta	365	
HINDI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
47	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore	.....	15th November 1883.
48	"Bhārat Mitra"	Calcutta	1,500	15th ditto.
49	"Sār Sudhānidhi"	Ditto	500	12th ditto.
50	"Uchit Baktā"	Ditto	.....	17th ditto.
51	"Hindi Samāchār"	Blagulpore	.....	1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th October, & 5th November 1883.
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
52	"Jām-Jahan-numā"	Calcutta	250	16th November 1883.
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
53	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat"	Calcutta	.....
54	"Amir-ul-Akbar"	Ditto	.....
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
55	"Jarīda-i-numaish"	Ditto	.....	1st, 5th, 8th, 12th, & 15th November 1883.
ASSAMESE.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
56	"Assam Vilāsinī"	Sibsagar	.....
URIYA.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
57	"Utkal Dipikā"	Cuttack	188	10th November 1883.
58	"Utkal Darpan"	Balasore	200	11th ditto.
59	"Balasore Samvad Vāhikā"	Ditto	92	8th ditto.
60	"Perusottam Patrikā"	Pooree	330	
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
61	"Kshatriya Patrikā"	Patna	400	

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

The *Grámvartá Prakashika*, of the 10th November, remarks ironically that Mr. Thompson is a great well-wisher of Bengal. Self-Government has been introduced even in the non-regulation Provinces, but in Bengal even its mode of operation has not been yet settled. At last the Lieutenant-Governor establishes a Commission with the notorious Mr. Westmacott at its head. The preliminaries show how successful Self-Government will become under Mr. Thompson's *régimé*.

The Rent Bill.

2. The same paper thus continues its observations on the Rent Bill:—

GRAMVARTÁ
PRAKASHIKA,
Nov. 10th, 1863.

GRAMVARTÁ
PRAKASHIKA.

8. The provisions regarding ejectment in the event of a breach of contract are very vague and complicated.

9. There should be some provision for preserving the right of the ryot in trees reared by his own hands.

10. The right of pre-emption given to the zemindar in the sale of an occupancy holding makes free sale impossible, and no one would come forward to purchase such holding. This provision would put a stop to the free sale of such holding under the existing custom.

11. If one-fifth of the produce be fixed as the rate of rent, the ryot would find it hard to pay so much, so the *bonâ fide* cultivator should be required to pay one-sixth and other ryots one-eighth of the produce. The writer sees no reason why the rent of occupancy ryots should differ from the rent of ordinary ryots; so section 119 should be omitted.

12. The zemindar should have no power to survey his lands without the help of courts, for if he has that power given him, the jamabandi will be a false jamabandi and the provisions of section 59 will not be able to prevent that result.

13. The provision for enhancement up to the double amount of the existing rent would be hard on the ryot. Provision should, therefore, be made that the courts shall not grant enhancement exceeding half as much as the existing rate.

14. Poor ryots will not be able to bear the expenses of having their *nirikhnama* and *jamabandi* papers prepared by the revenue officers of Government.

15. There is no provision for partial relinquishment of land; but according to the established custom ryots may relinquish all land except their homestead. The zemindar also accepts this arrangement. This practice should be continued.

16. The attachment of the standing crops belonging to an inferior ryot for the default of the superior is unjust. This will ruin many *bonâ fide* cultivators. Such attachments should be put a stop to.

17. The registration of rights shortly after the passing of the Bill should be made compulsory and not optional with the Government of Bengal. It will produce peace.

18. A wide door has been opened to fraud by the provision regarding the petition to stop attachment and sale referred to in sections 217 and 221, for the zemindars will purchase much below their proper price the holdings of one man by putting them to sale for the default of another.

19. The ryots get so much embarrassed when before a court that they cannot even repeat their own names. Under such circumstances if the provision regarding written statements be abolished, it would cause them hardship. Written statements are not submitted, indeed, in suits of small value, but that does not matter much, because in such suits no permanent interest is affected. But in rent-suits such interests are involved.

20. The occupancy ryot has been given the right of using the land in such a manner that it is not made unfit for the purposes of the tenancy. This provision is calculated to increase litigation, as it does not define how the land may be made unfit for such purposes.

21. The right of making improvements has been given to the ryot with the proviso that the object with which the land was let out should be always kept in view. Unless there be a written agreement, the purpose for which the land was let out is to be inferred from the way in which the ryot uses the land. This provision interferes with the right enjoyed by the ryot from time immemorial of sub-letting the land to others, laying out gardens, opening shops and so on. The zemindar can enhance the rent if these improvements are made, but he cannot evict under the present law. The present Bill is so framed that he will have the power of eviction.

22. No fee is charged under the present law for depositing rent. But the present Bill provides that a fee of annas eight will be charged on every deposit. This will be hard on the poor ryot. The writer suggests that a form of *challan* be devised by the use of which the ryot should be able to deposit his rent by means of postal money-orders.

23. The provision regarding decennial survey is likely to be mischievous.

24. The right given to the zemindar of enhancing rent every tenth year is unreasonable. The ryot should not be disturbed at least for twenty years.

25. Government should take steps to see that the provisions of any Act for regulating the relation of landlord and tenant are carried out. The ryot is poor. He cannot bear the cost, often heavy, of obtaining the protection of law.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA,
Nov. 10th, 1883.

3. A correspondent of the same paper complains of the bad management of the Pubna zillah school. He hears that the character of the boys is not good.

The teachers should be strict. Many evil tendencies of the boys can be removed if the teachers but feel that their responsibility does not end with tuition. The practice of daily promoting and degrading boys in the class has been discontinued. The sixth and the eighth masters of the school are conducting the business of Messrs. Friend and Co., though the rule is that no Government servant shall engage in trade. The teachers of the school are inefficient. The Inspector of Schools, Rajshahye Circle, should pay his attention to the condition of this school.

PARIDARSHAK,
Nov. 11th, 1883.

4. The *Paridarshak*, of the 11th November, remarks that the agitation against the Ilbert Bill has assumed a new phase since the publication of the official opinions on that measure. Previous to that event the agitators might have outstepped the limits of religion and morality, but they kept within the four corners of the law. They neither did nor said anything that could make them amenable to the Penal Code. But when they learned that the Judges and Magistrates of districts were also against the Bill, the agitators became incensed. They now say that if Lord Ripon passes the Bill in the teeth of the opposition of the European community and against the wishes of the official classes, they would try their best to frustrate the object which the Bill has in view. Some of them have gone so far as to suggest that a supply of arms and ammunition should be brought from England. They evidently want to intimidate Lord Ripon. But they are mistaken. The mischief is the natives may learn a bad lesson from their example. It is the interest of the non-official European community to uphold the prestige and honour of the Government of India. If that Government becomes weak the brag and bluster of the non-official European

The Ilbert Bill.

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will come to an end. The writer wonders that the district authorities are indifferent to the conduct of the non-official Europeans. The former should come forward to uphold the dignity of the Supreme Government.

PANIDARSHAN,
Nov. 11th, 1883.

5. The same paper remarks that there is an Excise Department in the public administration of almost every civilized country, the object of the department everywhere being to prevent the illicit and excessive sale of liquor. But the object of the Excise Department in India seems to be different. It appears that here the department is intended to increase the revenue by ruining the morality of the people, and instead of checking the excessive sale of liquor to give a stimulus to it.

The Excise Department.

SURABHI,
Nov. 12th, 1883.

6. We give below a translation of an article in the *Surabhi*, of the 12th November, headed "Mr. Thompson, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal:—"

Mr. Thompson.

Sounds of rejoicing arose on all sides when our Lieutenant-Governor Mr. Thompson ascended the Bengal musnud after Mr. Eden. We do not know how it was but praises were heard on all sides that Mr. Thompson was a very virtuous, wise, and liberal-minded man. In consequence of these praises all men hoped that by the auspicious advent of the virtuous Mr. Thompson after the selfishly-inclined Mr. Eden, beneficial changes of an unexpected and incomparable nature would take place in Bengal. But the more time passed away, those expectations of the people were the more converted into despair. Subsequently, after the proposal regarding Self-Government and the Ilbert Bill, people have uprooted those hopes from their hearts, and cast them away. Mr. Thompson has become so far unpopular with Bengalis that people call Mr. Eden good compared with him. Mr. Thompson has greatly disappointed us in certain matters. The first is Self-Government. We have received sufficient evidence to the effect that our Lieutenant-Governor Mr. Thompson is unable to introduce Self-Government in the form in which it ought to be introduced in Bengal, and in which Bengalis deserve to receive it. By proposing the establishment of a Central Board in the Self-Government Bill which he introduced, he has taken steps with the view that there may exist no independence in municipalities and the local boards, and that the spirit of independence may not be deeply developed in the minds of Bengalis. Again, by his recent appointment of his worthy disciple, Mr. Westmacott, so hostile to the advancement of natives to the charge of devising the form in which Self-Government ought to be introduced into the Burdwan and the Presidency Divisions, he has clearly shown how much opposed he is to the introduction of Self-Government in Bengal in an advanced form. Considering Self-Government to contain within it the seed of the spirit of independence in this country we expect from it great benefits. By being hostile to the fulfilment of our hopes, the Lieutenant-Governor Mr. Thompson has taken it upon himself to do us great evil. That we should for this reason lose all sense of respect for him and that he should become unpopular throughout Bengal, where is the wonder?

The second is the Ilbert Bill. When we hear that Mr. Thompson is violently opposed to the little rightful change which has been proposed in the Ilbert Bill, we find ourselves at a loss to make out how he acquired the reputation of being conscientious, just, and virtuous. The wonder is how the man could at any time acquire the reputation of being conscientious whose heart is so narrow, and who is so selfishly disposed as to be unwilling to grant to the natives, even when deserving, their legitimate rights, simply because they belong to the conquered race and possess a dark skin. It was beyond even the reach of our dream that Mr. Thompson would be an opponent of the Ilbert Bill. He has displayed so much enthusiasm and

ardour in his opposition to the Ilbert Bill that he has become the leader of those Englishmen in India, who oppose that Bill. Mr. Thompson is feeling himself honored on receiving this leadership, and instead of saying anything by way of condemnation, he is giving encouragement to those followers of his, who, in order to show their hostility to the Ilbert Bill, are adopting measures whether just or unjust. At the bottom of these proceedings of the Lieutenant-Governor, signs of a desire to oppose the advancement of Bengalis are clearly visible. That we should on this account lose our respect for him and that he should become unpopular throughout Bengal, where is the wonder?

The third is the outstill system. Just as we had considered it inevitable that Lord Lytton's Press Law would become dead in the hands of the liberal Lord Ripon, so we had thought it inevitable that Mr. Eden's outstill system would be abolished by the sincerely Christian-minded Mr. Thompson. But that belief of ours is gone. Mr. Eden could find no fault in the outstill system, and believed not that any evil to the country would flow from it. Mr. Thompson has not, indeed, that blind love for the outstill system, but he does not desire to at once put it beyond his eye-sight. Perhaps he believes that the outstill system has faults, and is injurious; but even believing it to be such, he dares not to abolish it altogether. He has sometimes since given particular proof to the effect that the outstill system would not be materially reformed during his rule. The Outstill Commission, which he has recently appointed, will simply create a little inconvenience in the way of selling liquor, but it will not introduce any other material change. Mr. Eden became unpopular with us by reason of his blind love for the outstill system. As we find evidence of that love even in Mr. Thompson, where is the wonder that we should lose our respect for him and that he should become unpopular throughout Bengal?

The fourth is hatred and dislike of the Bengali. A ruler can never win the affections of his subjects unless he entertains love and respect for them. Mr. Thompson, the ruler of Bengal, feels profound hatred for Bengalis, and his ill-will against them is ingrained in his soul. A clear proof of his hatred and ill-will against Bengalis was found in the speech which he made expressing an opinion adverse to the Ilbert Bill. Again, since he is the leader of those Englishmen in general, who are violently hostile to Bengalis, who can say that Mr. Thompson does not hate Bengalis with the hearty hatred which is entertained against them by ordinary Englishmen? If he had not done so, would they have honored and worshipped him as their leader on the roadside, upon the landing ghât, in durbars, and at dinner parties? It appears from Mr. Thompson's ways and manners that he has concluded it once for all that every Bengali is hypocritical and dishonest; otherwise when a man so honorable amongst Bengalis as Baboo Kristodas Pal, after showing the extreme injustice of the Assam Coolie Emigration Bill, called it a slave law, how could Mr. Thompson have called him "dishonest and dishonorable?" It is easy to imagine in what light he regards the whole Bengali people, who can call a leading Bengali dishonest for criticizing a law in a straightforward manner. Can the man whose mind is thus disposed towards his subjects do them any good at any time? And can he, at any time, become popular with them? Such being Mr. Thompson's hatred, and such being his ill-feeling and bias against Bengalis, where is the wonder that we should lose our respect for him and that he should become unpopular throughout Bengal?

We have given up all our hopes for the advancement of Bengal during the administration of the Lieutenant-Governor Mr. Thompson. Bengal expects nothing good so long as he remains. It is a matter of very great regret that we have not, up to this day, acquired the right to elect and

depose our ruler. If we had got that right, there is no doubt that all Bengal would have this day united to depose Mr. Thompson. At present our one only means is to memorialise. We propose that a memorial be sent to the Secretary of State for India for the deposition of the Lieutenant-Governor Mr. Thompson, stating all the reasons which have made him unpopular with Bengalis. The necessity for sending a memorial for the deposition of Mr. Thompson may be clearly understood by comparing his administration with what the administration of Bengal would, in the consideration of every person, have been, if the Bengal musnud had now been occupied by a liberal-minded, spirited, firm, and just man like Lord Ripon. Many will perhaps say that such a memorial will lead to no result. We say that even if it leads to no result, still a memorial is an expression of strong and irrepressible mental desire. It is an important thing to freely express a desire, for if it is not expressed it will never lead to action. Memorials are for this reason particularly useful. All the Bengalis have become dissatisfied, vexed, and disappointed with Mr. Thompson's administration. It is a strong desire of the Bengali's heart that the sooner a weak and narrow-minded ruler like Mr. Thompson goes away, vacating the Bengal musnud, the better. If Mr. Thompson is not deposed in consequence of a memorial apprising the Secretary of State for India of this sentiment and this desire, still that memorial will be of use. We shall know its good effect in future.

7. The same paper observes that the Outstill Commission will be composed of Mr. Edgar as President, and a native Deputy Collector and a non-official

The outstill system.

gentleman as members. It is to be feared that these two members will not be able to do the work satisfactorily. The suggestion put forth by the *Hindoo Patriot* that Mr. Evans be appointed a member of the Commission is worthy of all approbation. Mr. Evans is opposed to the continuance of the outstill system, and will, if appointed to the Commission, be well able to hold his own against Mr. Edgar.

8. The Government of India, says the same paper, has not done well by ordering the volunteers to furnish a guard-of-honour to the Viceroy on the occasion of his return to the metropolis. That order has led to the resignation of certain members of the corps, while one member is still inciting other volunteers to disobey the orders of Government. This is certainly humiliating to the Government of India. By omitting to order the attendance of the volunteers at the outset, and subsequently ordering their attendance, the Government of India seemed to consider that Lord Ripon's reception would be wanting if the volunteers did not favour him with a guard-of-honour. The honour thus done to the volunteers is one which they do not deserve. Considering the disrespect which not a few members of the corps have shown to the Viceroy by their letters to the newspapers, it has not been good policy to ask them to take part in His Excellency's reception. Some volunteers might now say that Lord Ripon forced the corps to do him honour against their will.

The volunteers.

9. The *Bhārat Mihir*, of the 13th November, remarks that the employés of the police are very ill-paid. It cannot be expected that good men will seek service on so small a pay. The list of employés for the present year shows that only 80 per cent. of the head constables and 38 per cent. of the constables can read and write. Most of these can only sign their names. The life and property of 70 millions of men are entrusted in the hands of these illiterate men. The superior officers of Government have no idea how the poor Bengali suffers at the hands of these dignitaries of the police. The number of police officers who have received punishment is daily increasing.

The police.

SURABHI,
Nov. 12th, 1883.

SURABHI.

BHARAT MIHIR,
Nov. 13th, 1883.

The eyes of the ruler of Bengal should open to the misdeeds of the police, and His Honor should try his best to introduce reforms in the administration of this department.

SAMACHAR,
Nov. 14th, 1883.

10. The *Sahachar*, of the 14th November, entreats Government not to forget the poor people who are likely to suffer greatly from the failure of the crops,

The scarcity.
in the midst of the festivities attending the Exhibition when Rájáhs and Maharájáhs will occupy the greater portion of its attention. The writer cannot believe that anything wrong can happen in the administration of such a virtuous ruler as Lord Ripon, but he still thinks it his duty to warn His Excellency on the subject.

SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Nov. 14th, 1883.

11. The *Sámachár Chandriká*, of the 14th November, regrets to learn that both Mr. Beveridge and Mr. Lyall have thought fit to recommend the abolition

The jury system.
of the system of trial by jury, simply because the jury, in most cases, return the verdict of "not guilty." But if the system is abolished, who will be responsible for any miscarriage of justice that may occur through the mistake of the Sessions Judge?

HINDU RANJIKÁ,
Nov. 14th, 1883.

12. The *Hindu Ranjiká*, of the 14th November, remarks that there are many plantations established in India and the colonies which are supported by British capital and Indian labour. The coolies are taken to the plantations under contracts. The authorities superintend their diet and their clothing, &c., before emigration; still they cannot be said to be properly fed and properly clothed. But what becomes of them afterwards cannot be ascertained. The planters undertake to provide the coolies with proper medical aid and other assistance. But in fact the coolies derive but little benefit from this arrangement.

HINDU RANJIKÁ.

13. The same paper learns from a creditable source that is, from a person returned from jail, that caste distinctions are not at all observed in the jails. Persons belonging to low castes often cook for Brahmins. If anybody remonstrates, he does so in vain. This is certainly an infringement of religious neutrality and an interference with the religion of the natives of India.

HINDU RANJIKÁ.

14. The same paper remarks that the appointment of a Commission to report on the working of the outstill system by Mr. Thompson, whose views on the subject are not unknown, seems to be an affair intended to impose upon the public.

PRABHATI,
Nov. 15th, 1883.

15. The *Prabháti*, of the 15th November, remarks that on his accession to the Lieutenant-Governorship, Mr. Thompson gave many hopes about Self-Government. He announced that he intended to give the fullest effect to the Self-Government policy of Lord Ripon. In the course of his tour last year he gave hints as to the plan he would follow in this connection. But the writer is struck dumb at the discrepancy between His Honor's words and deeds. Every one expected that the Self-Government Bills would become law before the last session of the Legislative Council. But for some unknown reason, Mr. Thompson has disappointed the public in their expectations. The Ilbert Bill may be at the root of this. The Lieutenant-Governor has not said a word of encouragement during his long tour this year about Self-Government; nay, he has expressed his approbation wherever he has heard anything said against it.

MEDINI,
Nov. 15th, 1883.

16. The *Medini*, of the 15th November, re-affirms the charges against Buzlul Karim, the Deputy Magistrate of Ghattal, on what the Editor considers to be reliable testimony.

Buzlul Karim, the Deputy Magistrate of Ghattal.

17. The *Shakti*, of the 15th November, approves the appointment of Baboo Ambica Charan Sen, M. A., to the statutory Civil Service. That service has become contemptible by the appointment to it of spoilt children of wealthy parents. Had really able men been appointed to that service from the outset, much unfavourable criticism might have been spared during the recent agitation on the Ilbert Bill.

SHAKTI,
Nov. 15th, 1883.

18. The same paper condemns the appointment of Kumar Ramendra Krishna, of Sobha Bazar, to the statutory Civil Service. Kumar Ramendra Krishna has passed only the Entrance examination of the Calcutta University, and he is placed side by side with Baboo Ambica Charan who is a distinguished scholar. The Editor implores the Government not to strike the axe at the root of the statutory Civil Service by the appointment of such men.

SHAKTI.

19. The same paper hears that the famous Mr. Westmacott is to be appointed President of the Commission for reporting on the Self-Government scheme. It was he who dismissed the Government pleader of Howrah for expressing his sympathy with Baboo Surendra Nath Banerjee. If such a person is put in charge of the introduction of Self-Government, the result will be the same as if a Kazi were appointed to fix the day for a Hindu festival.

SHAKTI.

20. The *Behar Bandhu*, of the 16th November, observes that Mr. Evans of Monghyr should be appointed a member of the Outstill Commission, which will shortly commence its labours.

BEHAR BANDHU,
Nov. 16th, 1883.

21. The same paper complains that the Bills and other forms used by the Behar Municipality are printed in the Bengali character, which the people do not understand at all. This should therefore be discontinued.

BEHAR BANDHU.

22. The same paper regrets to notice that as regards the supply of official information, native editors are not placed on the same footing with Anglo-Indian editors.

BEHAR BANDHU.

23. The *Sár Sudhánidhi*, of the 12th November, dwells upon the increase in the public expenditure of the Government of India. A large sum is annually expended on the pay and pensions of the civilians. It is hopeless to expect that any reductions will be made in this direction. But one thing can be done, namely, that by paying the pensions of civilians in Indian money, the enormous yearly loss on exchange may be avoided.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
Nov. 12th, 1883.

24. The *Purva Pratidhwani*, of the 16th November, contains an article on the conduct of Mr. McGuire, Assistant Magistrate, who ordered 15 stripes to each of the two boys who, by letting fireworks, had frightened his horse. The boys made a motion before the Judge who sent for the records in one case. Mr. McGuire seeing the Judge's peon, there and then gave one of the boys the stripes. The triangle was brought in, but as the use of the triangle would take time, and as in the meanwhile he might receive the Judge's letter asking for the records, the Magistrate made no use of it, but inflicted the stripes with his own hands before opening the cover.

PURVA PRATIDHWANI
Nov. 16th, 1883.

25. The *Pratikár*, of the 16th November, remarks that there can be no doubt that the people will suffer much from the failure of the crops this year. There may not be a famine, for there is still much reserve crop from the surplus of the past few years, and much also can be done by the importation of rice from different countries. The writer advises that vigorous relief measures

PRATIKAR,
Nov. 16th, 1883.

should be adopted, and that this opportunity should be availed of for reclaiming the Bishunpore bheel at Berhampore. But Government cannot do everything: its resources are limited. The zemindars should come forward. They have for the past few years received their rents regularly from their ryots, whom they should now come forward to help.

PRATIKAR,
Nov. 16th, 1883.

26. The same paper remarks that if Government abolishes the Berhampore College, high education will not suffer, but it will fall into the hands of Christian

Missionaries from whose hands people would not accept high education, even if it were given gratis, inasmuch as their primary object is not education but proselytisation. The people of Berhampore will in that case have to take into their own hands the management of the College.

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
Nov. 16th, 1883.

27. Referring to the proposal to abolish the jury system, because the the jury, in most cases, return the verdict of not guilty, the *Education Gazette*, of the 16th

November, says that if the jurors prove unduly lenient, what is the Sessions Judge for? He can, if he is dissatisfied with their verdict, refer the matter to the High Court.

ARYA DARPAN,
Nov. 16th, 1883.

28. The *Arya Darpan*, of the 16th November, remarks that Government officers all admit that drunkenness has increased in this country since the

introduction of the outstill system. Some have gone so far as to say that it has increased the number of crimes. But will not Government try to remedy the evil? Will not Government arrest the ruin of its subjects? It is a fact that the increase of drunkenness has increased the revenue of Government. But which is the better work—the increase of revenue or the delivery of the subjects from ruin?

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA,
Nov. 17th, 1883.

29. The *Gramvartá Prakáshiká*, of the 17th November, remarks that Government will indeed be entitled to the gratitude of the people by passing, as it has determined to pass, the Ilbert Bill and the

Rent Bill this year. But Government should pay some attention to the fact that the supply of wholesome drinking-water is insufficient in the mofussil. Old tanks are drying up, and rivers are being silted up. The excavation of new tanks has become an impossibility, owing to the prohibitory price for land demanded by zemindars.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

30. The same paper says that the conduct of Mr. Thompson at Dinagepore was unworthy of him. Such conduct would not have been so reprehensible

in a young civilian of limited experience, but it is a matter of great regret that a ruler of Mr. Thompson's long experience should have been guilty of it. Bengalis were not allowed the privilege of entering the dais at Chidibandar where His Honor was received. A zemindar who went to pay his respects to the Lieutenant-Governor had to come back with disgrace, but, at the same time, those personages who serve the zemindars in the capacity of their officers had free admittance. His Honor may not have minded this affair, but native noblemen should draw a lesson from it.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

31. The same paper is glad to observe that His Honor has at last done something for the good of the country.

He has earned the gratitude of the people by appointing a Commission to report on the working of the outstill system.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

32. The same paper learns from the *Mirror* that Baboo Ambica Charan Sen and a scion of the Sobha Bazar family

have been appointed statutory civilians this year. The writer is greatly disappointed to find that the agricultural knowledge of Baboo Ambica Charan will thus be of no use to his country. Every one

thought that the agriculturists of Bengal would find a worthy teacher in Baboo Ambica Charan.

GRANVARTA
PRAKASHIKA,
Nov. 17th, 1883.

33. The same paper attributes the prevalence of epidemic diseases to the dampness of the soil caused by the obstruction of natural drainage brought about by the silting up of rivers, want of a sufficiently large number of water passages on the rail roads, the road cess roads and the public works roads. These obstructions to natural drainage should be removed and more water passages should be constructed across railways. But has the Government done anything in this direction? Nothing that the writer knows of. Sometimes attempts are made, but as, in the case of setting free the channel of the Anjaná in Krishnagore, they all prove fruitless. There has been talk of excavating the Bhyrub at Jessore since the time when the writer was very young. But all this talk has ended in correspondence and resolutions.

Epidemic diseases.

GRANVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

34. The same paper observes, that while on the one hand Lord Ripon is trying to introduce liberal ideas of government, Mr. Thompson, on the other, stands in opposition to a liberal policy and encourages the party that is against the natives of this country. The expectations raised by the appointment of Mr. Thompson, who is an old man and a devoted votary of Christ, are all nipped in the bud. Every one thought that as Lord Ripon, the successor of Lord Lytton, was showing a liberal spirit, so would Mr. Thompson, the successor of Sir Ashley Eden. Bengalis are very unfortunate. The wheel of fortune plunges them deeper and deeper in misfortune. The contrast shows Sir Ashley in a favourable light. Many think he was not a hater of natives. The writer proves this by citing the instance of Mr. B. Dé's invitation to a dinner given by the Maharájáh of Durbhunga. It is a matter of regret that His Honor should be a hater of natives, and that he should think native Magistrates as worthless as lumps of clay. Had he impartially considered the merits and demerits of the native Magistrates, that would have been worthy of his position. Perhaps Mr. Thompson speaks of the native Magistrates as worthless, simply to oppose the Ilbert Bill. He is dissatisfied not only with native Magistrates, but with natives in general. To prove his position, the writer cites the Madaripore case, and the incident at the Dinagepore durbar. Natives, it seems, are worthless because they do their duty, and Europeans are promoted because they do just as they please. Such partiality in a ruler does not look well. Whatever the cause, Mr. Thompson seems to be under the impression that Bengalis are veritable lumps of clay unworthy of jurisdiction over Europeans and of Self-Government.

Mr. Thompson.

HALISAHAR
PRAKASHIKA,
Nov. 17th, 1883.

35. The *Halisahar Prakashiká*, of the 17th November, seems not to understand the theory advanced in the official reports that with the removal of prejudices people are contracting habits of drinking; as if the country was full of prejudices, and as soon as the outstill system was introduced, these prejudices went into voluntary exile. Increase of population has been assigned as another cause of the increase of drunkenness. This also is not clear. The writer says that as regards the increase of population the malaria has swept away a very large number. It is temptation which leads man astray. The increase of population has nothing to do with it. The assertion that though drinking has increased, drunkenness has not, is unintelligible. Lots of drunkards are to be found almost in every town and in every village.

The outstill system.

HALISAHAR
PRAKASHIKA.

36. The same paper asks the editors both in the town and in the mofussil to meet together and send a petition to Lord Ripon, who will soon come to Calcutta,

Government publications.

praying that the vernacular papers may be allowed the privilege of obtaining Government publications in the same way as Anglo-Indian newspapers.

HALISAHAR
PRAKASHIKA,
Nov. 17th 1883.

The Rent Bill.

37. The same paper advocates a land settlement under which the ryots would have a permanent interest in the land like the zemindars. The Rent Bill has been introduced with the purpose of helping the ryots. But the provisions of the present Bill are not unobjectionable. The writer therefore asks the Legislature to be very careful.

SULABHA SAMACHAR,
Nov. 17th, 1883.

Female bathing ghâts.

38. The *Sulabh Samachâr*, of the 17th November, calls the attention of the public to the desirability of constructing separate bathing ghâts for females. The promiscuous bathing of males and females in the same ghât is very improper.

BANGABASI,
Nov. 17th, 1883.

The right of subletting.

39. The *Bangabâsi*, of the 17th November, advocates the rights of the *jotedars*, and says that these should get the benefit of the present Rent Bill. They enjoy the right of subletting their holdings, and they should be confirmed in the enjoyment of that right. Government does not like to include the *jotedars*, who form a rent-receiving class, within the meaning of the term ryot, which, according to the definition given by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, means only those who cultivate the land either with their own hands or by means of relatives and servants. The writer says that the taluqdars form really a rent-receiving class; they have no interest in the cultivation of the soil; but the *jotedars* depend entirely on the cultivation. They have a direct interest in the produce of the land. If Government regards these men as taluqdars, it will do them much harm. The *jotedars* supply the cultivators with seeds, and with plough cattle. They have sometimes to give advances to the cultivators. In fact, they make the land fit for cultivation. Sometimes the cultivators take large plots of land, sometimes small pieces. Sometimes they pay money-rent; at other times they are sharers of the produce. It is a mistaken idea that cultivators submit to be under-ryots, because they cannot acquire the occupancy right. In fact, the cultivators cannot bear the responsibilities of occupancy ryots. They one year rent a large piece of land; next year a small piece; in the third year again they cannot pay rent and submit to receive a half, a fourth, or a third share of the produce. The *jotedars* are not middlemen as the Government thinks them to be. They are the real ryots. If one who sublets is to be deprived of his rights as a ryot, a great mischief will be done to society. Suppose one who has cultivated his land for 20 years is by some chance unable to do so any longer, is he to be deprived of all his rights? Suppose after cultivating a piece of land for a long time he dies, and his widow or his minor son is unable to continue the cultivation either with their own hands or by servants, is the widow or the minor to lose their rights? When a right is once vested it cannot be taken away. The Lieutenant-Governor wants to make a rule that one who cultivates half the land he holds may be regarded as a ryot. But there may be a difference of opinion as to whether the ryot is actually cultivating a half or a fourth. This difference will be a fruitful source of litigation between the zemindar and the ryot.

BANGABASI.

The Maharâjâh of Cooch Behar.

40. The same paper does not understand why the Maharâjâh of Cooch Behar should entertain a foreign officer for conducting the administration of his State. While large States like Kashmere and Baroda can be governed by native agency, should Cooch Behar require the assistance of a foreigner? The writer would have been glad to see a native of Cooch Behar employed in the work of the administration. The Maharâjâh has two brothers, one of whom is a barrister and the other has learned agriculture. They were both

educated in England. One of them should have been provided with a high appointment.

BANGABASI.
Nov. 17th, 1883.

41. A correspondent of the same paper writes that in a recent criminal case tried by him, the Deputy Magistrate of Ghattal became so angry with one of the witnesses for the defence that he ordered one of the peons of his court to pull the ears of the witness, and this operation was continued until the witness gave such evidence as was considered satisfactory. This was done in open court and within the knowledge of the Mukhtars and the Amlah. The same writer proceeds to say that on the night of the 12th September last, when the Deputy Magistrate was on a visit to the village of Kheerpoy, there was such high-handedness committed on two prostitutes of the place for his amusement that they were obliged to flee from their houses.

SANJIVANI,
Nov. 17th, 1883.

42. The *Sanjivani*, of the 17th November, says: "We have announced before that the Lieutenant-Governor has nominated Kumar Ramendra Krishna of the Sobha Bazar Raj family as a statutory civilian. Kumar Ramendra Krishna has passed the Entrance examination only. There is no doubt that these men will shed a lustre on the name of the civilian. The character of Mr. Thompson cannot be understood. He has abused the statutory civilians as worthless in his minute on the Ilbert Bill, and now he uses means to bring about their worthlessness. Sure your ways are inscrutable, O Lieutenant-Governor!"

SANJIVANI.

43. The same paper agrees with the Lieutenant-Governor in defining the ryot as one who cultivates the land either with his own hands or with the help of his relatives and servants. But the Editor differs from His Honor, inasmuch as he does not hold that one who cultivates only a part of his land and sublets the other part should not be called a ryot with regard to the part which he does not cultivate. This will create a very large class of middlemen, who are, as a rule, more given to oppression than zemindars. The Bill does not give any right to the under-ryot; so the effect of the operation of the law will be to raise a certain class of ryots to the position of middlemen, while a large number will have to be satisfied with their position as under-ryots. The writer therefore proposes that the letting out of land for two consecutive years, either wholly or partially, should be made to deprive the ryot of his right in the land thus let out. The Bill does not set forth distinctly the difference between a ryot and a jotedar; still their rights have been differentiated. This is sure to increase litigation unless the terms are clearly defined. The right of sale has been conceded to the occupancy ryot, but the right of registering the sale in the zemindar's cutcherry has not been given except in the case of the transfer of homestead land. The fee for registration has been fixed at Rs. 2 if such registration is done within six months, and Rs. 20 if done after that time. The rate of fee should be altered and the right of registering all transfers should be conceded. The zemindar has been granted the right of pre-emption in the case of any sale of an occupancy holding. This will prevent transfers to a very great extent. The ryot should be granted the right of free and unconditional sale. But if within a certain time after the sale the zemindar can show before a court that the sale is fraudulent, or that it will put him to loss, or that the purchaser is his enemy, he should have the right of getting the sale cancelled.

SANJIVANI.

44. The same paper says: Mr. McGuire is the Joint-Magistrate of Chittagong. His good name is heard on all sides. None seem to have forgotten the affair of Ashruf Bibi. The reader has not perhaps yet forgotten that Baboo Taran Sinha Hazari was sent to jail for twenty days for going to support Ashruf Bibi, who was surrounded by the police. Perhaps

every one has a fresh recollection of the remarks of the High Court in releasing Baboo Taran Sinha on this strange judgment of the strange judge. Mr. McGuire dishonoured a man in high position for nothing; the High Court strongly criticised his proceedings, but not a hair of his head was touched. Mr. McGuire remained Joint-Magistrate where he was. The ruler of Bengal did not take his misconduct into consideration. Mr. McGuire feeling himself encouraged has committed another wrong action. On the occasion of the last Kali pujáh two boys of 11 or 12 years of age respectively were letting off fireworks; for this heavy offence, Mr. MacGuire ordered them 16 stripes each, and he has sent three other persons to jail for that offence. The guardians of the boys who were sentenced to be flogged appealed to the Judge, Mr. Bignold, in order to have the Joint-Magistrate's sentence quashed. The Judge ordered both the boys to be discharged. The order for the discharge of the first boy came to the Joint-Magistrate, and before the order for the discharge of the second boy arrived, the Joint-Magistrate could brook no delay, and allowed the second boy to go away after inflicting 16 stripes with his own hand on him. In this case Mr. McGuire was himself Judge and executioner. We fail to find the word which we should apply to such a wicked and heartless Judge, in order to sooth our indignant mind. If we could know that wrong-doing has its punishment; if we could know that the ruler of Bengal would punish this serious offence, this severe mental pain would find an expression; but under Mr. Thompson's rule English Judges have no fear. Under English rule such lawlessness never before prevailed. And this is the man who was to have been the president on the occasion of the centenary of Luther, the man who was so fond of liberty of conscience. If this one-eyed ruler of Bengal had been the president of that assembly, the holy soul of Luther would have shed tears from heaven. Talk of making that man who is unfit to carry Luther's shoes president of the meeting held in honour of Luther! When Lord Northbrook was Governor-General, our present Presidency Commissioner, a principal opponent of the Ilbert Bill and mighty well-wisher of the natives, Mr. Monro, once hastily flogged a man like Mr. McGuire. On hearing this, Lord Northbrook considering Mr. Monro as unfit for judicial work made up his mind to dismiss him, but was obliged to pardon him at the request of the then Lieutenant-Governor. Lord Ripon's position is very critical. Otherwise wicked Judges like Mr. McGuire and one-eyed Governors like Mr. Thompson would by this time have been brought round. It is necessary to take steps without delay for the deposition of Mr. Thompson from the Governorship. None can feel secure in the enjoyment of honour and respectability under his administration.

SANJIVANI,
Nov. 17th, 1883.

45. The same paper regrets the want of independent spirit among natives. They have not yet learnt to place national good above considerations of domestic tranquillity. They are giving hearty receptions to Mr. Thompson wherever he goes, though he asserts that taxation on spirit in India is very small as compared with that in England, and though he does not see the evil consequences of the outstill system and attributes the increase of drunkenness to the increased prosperity of the people. Though Mr. Thompson is very narrow-minded, and has given ample proof of his ill-will towards natives, though he has delayed the introduction of Self-Government in Bengal, though he is an opponent of the Ilbert Bill, and *de facto* leader of Anglo-Indians, who are on the point of rebellion and are the open villifiers of Lord Ripon, though he let off the officers who were implicated in the massacre of Pubna, and in the spoliation of the helpless widow at Chittagong, still the people of this country are bowing their heads low before him. They spare neither addresses nor illuminations. Is this your justice? Is this morality? If you cannot follow the dictates of justice and give up the tendency to low and mean flattery, with what face do you expect justice from others?

46. The *Dacca Prakásh*, of the 18th November, disapproves the proposal of the Inspector of Schools of the Presidency Division for the introduction of English up to the standard of the Entrance examination of the Calcutta University into the normal schools. Already the shallowness of the students of the normal schools, owing to the study of multifarious subjects, has become very remarkable. If English is now introduced, that shallowness will be aggravated. The writer, however, is not opposed to a moderate study of English in the place of some of the useless branches of study which now find favor.

DACCA PRAKASH,
Nov. 18th, 1883.

47. The same paper remarks that a District Judge proved delinquent, and he is simply dismissed by the Secretary of State, but provided with a pension of Rs. 4,500. Still Mr. Wallace is not satisfied and threatens to have his revenge on the Secretary of State. How is it that English civilians can insult the Government with such impunity? No one knows what would have befallen a native civilian if he had behaved similarly. The misconduct for which Baboo Surendra Nath was dismissed with a pension of Rs. 600 a year would have been no cause of dismissal to a European civilian, but would perhaps have contributed towards his promotion.

DACCA PRAKASH.

48. The *Sádháraní*, of the 18th November, remarks that Government is perfectly indifferent to the suffering of the people from the effects of malaria. All that it does, when hard pressed, is to establish a commission which, after squandering a good deal of money, comes to nothing. The Nuddea Fever Commission has not improved the health of the people in the least. Had the channel of any river been cleared of silt with the money spent on the commission, it would have been something. The Eastern Bengal Railway has stopped the junction between the Bhyrub and the Ichamati. Since then the Bhyrub has had no current. Its stagnant water contains all that is foul and unhealthy. The bed of the Bhyrub should be cleared. The indifference of Government in this matter is ruinous to the people. The Bengal Government has lost its character as a Government. But the Government of India is conducted in a liberal spirit under the viceroyalty of Lord Ripon. If so much suffering comes to his knowledge, he is likely to do something to remedy it. When he comes to Calcutta, if the cry reaches his ears from the mofussil he is sure to take some steps.

SADHARANI,
Nov. 18th, 1883.

49. The same paper complains that though it hears that the report of the Education Commission is out, it has not received a copy of it as yet.

SADHARANI.

50. With reference to the conduct of Mr. McGuire, the Joint-Magistrate of Chittagong, in whipping two boys with his own hand, the *Surabhi*, of the 19th November, says that he should not be allowed to retain his office for a moment. But there is no hope that the Government of Mr. Thompson, which shields civilians with care, will make any attempt to remedy highhandedness of this kind. Until the natives of this country take upon themselves the work of punishing their civilian oppressors, these will never hesitate to act just as they please.

SURABHI
Nov. 19th, 1883.

51. The same paper condemns the appointment of Captain Gordon to the Council of the Maharajah of Cooch Behar. It has been asserted that this arrangement was necessary, owing to the youth of the Maharajah. If so, the writer asks what benefit did the Maharajah derive from his education under the Government? Why was an Englishman made the virtual ruler of the State? If a native were appointed, people could believe in the good intentions of Government.

SURABHI

SURABHI,
Nov. 19th, 1883.

52. The same paper remarks that of all the enemies of Bengal, the worst is the outstill system. The Government gets a large revenue from it, so it cannot give it up. By encouraging the outstill system, Government has given proof that it has no sympathy with the people. For what will be the ultimate result of this system? Certainly, the ruin of Bengal.

The outstill system.

SAMAYA,
Nov. 19th, 1883.

53. The *Samaya*, of the 19th November, remarks that Government does not show a sixteenth part of the anxiety to free the ryots of the khas mehals from the oppressions of its officers that it shows to free the ryots from the highhandedness of the zemindars. The zemindars spend large sums of money to relieve their ryots from distress in times of famine and scarcity, but they never send them to jail in order to get back what they have advanced in times of distress as the Christian Government did last year. Government proclaims that the ryots are not favourably disposed to the zemindars, but in common fairness it should have criticised the conduct of those officers of Government who have acted with a high hand towards the ryots of the khas mehals. But Mr. Thompson cannot tolerate the idea of saying a hard word to a civilian. The Lieutenant-Governor observes that the zemindars often take illegal cesses, as was done in Sherepore where a tax was levied by the zemindar for giving an entertainment to Europeans. But, asks the writer, what is the certificate system? The Collector in the mofussil, by issuing the certificate for the realization of the road cess and the public works cess, causes the ryots to incur charges in the shape of stamp fees, pleaders fees, &c., when default is made to pay the road cess and public works cess; and each certificate costs the ryot at least Rs. 2. One who has to pay Rs. 50 can easily pay Rs. 52. But one who has to pay Re. 1 only finds it hard if he is called upon to pay Rs. 2. While the zemindar and his gomasta are satisfied if they get only one pice or two pice, the Government officers never hesitate to waste the money and time of the ryots. If any one goes to the Collector's office at Hooghly, he will find how large a number of persons are wasting their time and money at the field adjoining the office. Why are not gomastas employed to collect these cesses as is done for the collection of municipal taxes?

Oppression in the khas mehals.

SAMAYA.

54. The same paper remarks that there is a rumour in European quarters that the jury system does not work well in the mofussil. The Commissioner of the Patna Division and the Inspector-General of Police have both advanced facts and arguments to prove the worthlessness of the system. Mr. Lyall says that the police collect their evidence at the place of occurrence. So the evidence collected by them is perfectly reliable. But, says the writer, the majority of police officers are uneducated men, so it is natural that the opinions of educated men should differ from those of the police. The civilians do not understand the law of evidence, so in many cases innocent persons suffer for the want of judgment on the part of the police and of the Magistrate. The system of nominating jurors is open to question. The police generally nominate them, and the jury understand a case just in the way the Judge puts it before them. The Judge is a civilian, he cannot properly charge the jury. Again, it is essential to the impartial administration of justice that the preliminary investigation should be properly conducted. To attain that end the police officers should be required to be men of education, and should be better paid than at present. The nomination of jurors should not be left to the constables. The number of educated men is increasing every day; why should they not be chosen as jurors?

The jury system.

SAMAYA.

55. A correspondent of the same paper defends the officers of the Police Department from the charges brought against them by the *Bangabasi*, of the 3rd

The administration of the police.

November. He says the police sends up a case after due investigation on the evidence collected on the spot. But the friends of the accused secure witnesses in his favour at the time of the trial or the Magistrate lets him off owing to his doubt on some part of the evidence. The man cannot on that account be called an innocent man. He exhorts the Editor of the *Bangabasi* to satisfy himself whether the accused persons that are sent up by the police and released after trial are really innocent or not. A tradition is extant that the police was at one time bad, but at the present moment there are many educated men who are an ornament to the department. The police is becoming less and less highhanded.

56. The same paper hears a rumour that Baboo Ambica Charan Sen and a scion of the Sobha Bazar family were nominated by Mr. Thompson for appointment

Baboo Ambica Charan Sen.

as statutory civilians, and that Lord Ripon has rejected the claims of the latter. Baboo Ambica Charan has been appointed. He is to serve under Mr. Macpherson in the model farm at Nasrigunge. Thus, an experienced agriculturist is to be obliged to serve under an inexperienced civilian. But civilians are omniscient.

SAMAYA,
Nov. 19th, 1883.

57. The same paper observes that the Lieutenant-Governor has expressed a desire that the management of the khas mehals and of the wards' estates should

Khas mehals and the wards' estates.

serve as a model to the zemindars. But it is idle to express such a desire as long as the Board is in existence. The Board wants money and nothing else; it has neither morality, nor a sense of right and wrong. What can the Lieutenant-Governor do under the circumstances? To-day Mr. Thompson is Lieutenant-Governor, to-morrow Mr. Dampier will become such. Why should Mr. Dampier respect the resolution of Mr. Thompson? They are both civilians of long standing. As long as there are civilian Lieutenant-Governors these things will have no remedy.

SAMAYA

58. The same paper expected that the Education Commission would confer on the people an incalculable benefit.

The Education Commission.

But now everything seems empty; all void; there is no money. How can education spread? The members of the Commission hope that the education of 200 millions will be accomplished without any expenditure.

SAMAYA.

59. The *Som Prakásh*, of the 19th November, remarks that without a change in the constitution of the Indian Empire, the people of India cannot expect to improve their condition. The present consti-

The constitution of the Indian Empire.

tution is despotic; the officers are uncontrolled in the exercise of their power. There are laws and regulations indeed, but they can be torn to pieces by the administrators. Every officer is a Government. One Governor-General does something for the good of the country, but his successor reverses it. There is another aspect of the constitution more mischievous still. One officer in high position wants to do some good, his endeavours can be thwarted by other officers. The constitution which changes every moment cannot but change for the worse. The constitution in which the people have no voice cannot improve the condition of the people. The non-official Europeans too are a power in the State. Many are under the mistaken impression that if the natives get a share in the administration the Empire will fall from the hands of the Englishmen, and therefore they are opposed to the introduction of the Self-Government policy. A share in the administration will make the people more attached to the ruling race. The natives cannot rebel, for with the spread of education they are getting more and more thoughtful. If the rulers and the ruled work in harmony, a foreign invader will have very little chance of obtaining an entrance into the country.

SOM PRAKASH,
Nov. 19th, 1883.

SOM PRASAD,
Nov. 19th, 1883.

60. The same paper contains two pieces of poetry, in the first of which the Anglo-Indian abuses the weakness of the Bengali, and tells Lord Ripon that he is mistaken if he ever expects to get the worthless Bengali to help him in his work. He rebukes Lord Ripon for his unpatriotic conduct in sacrificing the interests of his own country for the benefit of a subject people. This he calls Lord Ripon's folly. He tells his determination to the Viceroy that as long as he is living he will not allow such things to take place.

In the second piece the Bengali on hearing the Anglo-Indian's speech laments over his sad lot. He says that the Ilbert Bill has revealed the Englishman in his true colours. It has shewn that he is devoid of all principles of morality. If the Ilbert Bill does not pass, that will not much affect the Bengali, but it will leave the pledges of the Empress unredeemed and the good name of Englishmen will be tarnished. That is the only consideration which grieves his heart.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
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61. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 19th November, approves of the proposal of the Education Commission to hold from time to time educational conferences at which Directors of Public Instruction should preside. The writer is also in favour of similar conferences being held by Inspectors and Deputy Inspectors of Schools. Among Inspectors of Schools, Baboo Bhudev Mookerjee alone held such conferences with his Deputy Inspectors. The proposal of the Commission to encourage educational periodicals or newspapers is commended. But it is regretted that such encouragement is generally monopolised by favoured individuals; and Lord Ripon is asked to put a stop to such monopoly. The Commission is thanked for suggesting that schools should not be harassed by being required to furnish statements not called for by Government or urgently required. The writer also approves of the proposals of the Commission for increasing the pay of subordinate inspectional officers, for separating the inspectional and the instructional branches of the service, and for appointing competent native Inspectors. The proposal to give powers of inspection to revenue officers is objected to on the ground that the result is likely to be very bad if amins and tehsildars try to abuse their powers. The suggestion for the appointment of members of Provincial text-book committees from within as well as from without the Education Department is not regarded as new. But it is observed that individually members are often entrusted with work which they cannot do well. The recommendation of the Commission that text-books should be well printed is approved of, inasmuch as badly printed books do injury to the eyes of the students.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

62. Referring to the case of Mr. Wallace, who has been dismissed from the Madras Civil Service, the same paper thinks that no injustice has been done to him. The Government of Madras has adduced evidence to show that he was thoroughly incompetent. The case of Mr. Wallace shows to some extent how the civilians carry on the work of administration. How many men like him there are in the Civil Service is not known. But the writer believes that, blinded by national partiality, Government does not see with its eyes open how incompetent Magistrates are ruining the people. A Magistrate had shown his incompetency for eighteen years in Madras, and no Governor dared to dismiss him. It is because he insulted Mr. Carmichael that people have at last got rid of him.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

63. Referring to the rejoicings on the occasion of the installation of the Maharajah of Cooch Behar, the same paper remarks as follows:—

“Why these festivities, these rejoicings? What new happiness has the Maharajah received? What new prosperity has dawned on the Cooch

Behar Raj? If we knew that the Maharajah was invested with independence, that he would be allowed to govern his people independently, we also would rejoice. What is the result? The Maharajah remains under the control of Englishmen, as he was before. Lord Ulick Browne, who was the lord of Cooch Behar, remains its lord; and Mr. Dalton remains the deputy lord that he was. Besides, another is added. The name of this new, lucky man is Captain Gordon. We hear that he is a son-in-law of Mr. Garth, the lucky Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court. Through Mr. Thompson's favour this tenth planet has settled upon Cooch Behar. What can be happier than this? There is no lack of things pleasant to hear. The Maharajah has ascended the throne, has become independent. A council or consulting "committee has been appointed to help him. What can be so pleasant as this? The only matter of regret is that two keen-sighted Englishmen will be seated like guards in that council, while Dewan Kalika Doss Baboo will do dewanny work sitting on one side. Two Europeans and one Bengali; on what side will the balance incline? Even dunces can infer on what side the Maharajah will incline. Captain Gordon, with the designation of Manager, is placed upon the shoulders of the Maharajah. If we ask why, we shall be counted as rebels and placed in charge of Mr. Monro. Even if so placed, we will say a hundred times that this has not been well done. Such jobbery is not worthy of Lord Ripon's administration. We say without fear that there is no need of a manager like Gordon or Hordon. The Maharajah could conduct the government with the assistance of the Dewan. To set over the Maharajah an English ruler has been very improper. You may say that this arrangement has been made in accordance with the wishes of the Maharajah; people will not believe it. The new Maharajah will dance as he is made to dance by the lord of Bengal or the lord of Rajshahye. In the first place, under the British system of administration, he is not independent in his own State. In the next place he has been living since his birth in the company of European ladies and gentlemen. White faces are to him objects of adoration a thousand times. Is it not the duty of the British Government to do what will really benefit the new Maharajah? The whole population of the country bear witness that in a native State European dewans or naibs do more evil than good. From small Durbhunga to large Hyderabad and Mysore, all may be cited as witnesses. That during the pure administration of Lord Ripon, in which it is proposed to introduce Self-Government among subject populations, in which it is intended to confer upon the people the right of acting independently without being guided by English wire-pullers, an independent prince should have English guards placed before and behind him, and an arrangement should have been made to bind him hand and foot is a matter of exceeding regret."

64. After giving some extracts from the speech of Sir Stafford Northcote, at Belfast, and from the article of Lord Salisbury in the *Contemporary Review* on the principles of Indian administration, the same

* Sir Stafford Northcote and Lord Salisbury on India.

paper observes as follows:—The thought that they may again become ministers deprives us of the desire for food and sleep. Whether the Indian Empire is being maintained only by the arms of a few Englishmen, or whether India's loyalty and attachment to Englishmen are not assisting in the maintenance of the Indian Empire, the godly Englishmen of the Liberal party know. Illiberal and demoniacal Englishmen have not the power to understand it; nor do we wish to make them understand it. What is destined will happen; unlucky India will again have bad luck. But we do not wish to preach morality to demoniacal Englishmen.

65. The same paper refers to the *fracas* that occurred during the Mohurram between the Mahomedans and the police at Colootollah. Such an occurrence in the heart of the metropolis of the British

The *fracas* between the Mahomedans and the police in Calcutta.

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Empire cannot be tolerated. The police are appointed to preserve peace, but they often break it. An inquiry should be made into the Colootollah affair. But if the police are even slightly to blame, they should receive exemplary punishment. In such cases heavy punishment for a light offence does more good than evil to society.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Nov. 19TH, 1883.

66. The following observations are extracted from an article in the *Ananda Bazar Patriká*, of the 19th November:—The country will be a loser and

The Rent Bill and middlemen.

not a gainer if the Bengal Tenancy Bill is passed into law. The Legislature cannot pass the measure for the purpose of benefiting only one of the parties concerned. If the object be to benefit the tenant alone, still the Bill cannot be passed into law, keeping only that object in view. In the present Rent Law, although the interests of the tenant have in a large measure been overlooked, still the gain to the zemindars has not been perfectly unqualified. It therefore follows that the Legislature will not be able to pass the Bill without creating some facilities for the zemindar for the realization of his rents. Again, if this is done, the tenant will be ruined even if the Bill confers many advantages upon him. In short, if the Bill becomes law, the little friendliness that is yet left between the landlord and tenant will disappear, and the former will use his powers in connection with the realization of rents for the ruin of the latter. But the party that will suffer the most, if the Bengal Tenancy Bill is passed into law, will be the middlemen whose interests have always been overlooked by the Legislature and encroached upon, on the one hand, by Government on behalf of the ryots, and on the other by zemindars on their own behalf. The middlemen have very few rights still left them, but even the few that are left will be taken away if the present Bill becomes law. It is to be regretted that Lord Ripon should have ignored the rights of these middlemen in the discussions of the Rent Bill. A zemindar's representative has been appointed a member of the Indian Legislature Council, and a representative of the ryots will shortly, it is said, obtain a seat in that Council, but there is no one to represent the interests of the middlemen in the Legislature. Considering the power possessed by the zemindars, the fact that they have influential associations and newspapers to advocate their interests, and many highly placed officials and even many peers of England to befriend them, there was no great necessity of taking a representative from their ranks in the Legislative Council. The ryots, too, possess friends. From the Viceroy down to the petty police constable all public officers befriend them. But the middlemen, who constitute the backbone of native society, have no friends, and their ruin is now imminent.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

67. The same paper wonders that such eminent men as Professor Max Muller and Dr. Hunter should have troubled themselves with pointing out the flaws in the arguments of the Judges of the

Calcutta High Court against the Ilbert Bill. The opinions expressed by the Judges contain so many fallacies and show such weak powers of reasoning on their part, that were it not for their official position, their arguments would have hardly deserved any consideration.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

68. The same paper directs the attention of the authorities to a recent case in which Mr. McGuire, the Joint-Magistrate of Chittagong, whipped a boy with his own hands for letting off fireworks. It is actions like these that are calculated to produce dissatisfaction towards Government in the minds of natives.

Mr. McGuire.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

69. The same paper condemns the appointment of Mr. Amir Ali as the ryots' representative to the Legislative Council on the ground that he is not so well qualified to represent the interests of the ryots as Baboo Kristo Das Pal is to represent the interests of his constituents.

Mr. Amir Ali.

70. The same paper, while it is glad to notice that Lord Ripon's

Grievances of railway passengers.

attention has been directed to the grievances of passengers on the East Indian Railway, expresses regret that the sufferings of native passengers, who travel by the Eastern Bengal and the Central Bengal Railways, have not yet received any attention. There do not exist water-closets in the carriages composing the Goalundo mail train, and in many second-class carriages on these railways. Then, again, on the Eastern Bengal Railway, native ladies travelling second-class are not allowed to use the waiting-rooms at the different stations. No separate arrangements are made for the benefit of native ladies on the Central Bengal Railway. The system of return tickets which obtains on the East Indian Railway is not in force on either the Eastern Bengal or the Central Bengal Railway lines.

71. The same paper draws the attention of the Calcutta Police to

Levy of an illegal tax.

the fact that the constables stationed at the Shyambazar Bridge levy a tax of six pice on every cart that comes there from Baraset or elsewhere laden with bamboos. Surely this tax is illegal.

72. The *Cháru Vártá*, of the 19th November, condemns the outstill

The outstill system.

ing traffic in liquor.

73. The same paper regrets to notice that Baboo Ambica Charan Sen,

Baboo Ambica Charan Sen.

the successful student of the Cirencester College, has been appointed by Government to the statutory Civil Service instead of being provided with some appointment in which his agricultural knowledge could have been utilized.

74. The *Sambad Purnachandrodaya*, of the 22nd November, con-

Mr. Amir Ali.

demns the appointment as ryots' representative of Mr. Amir Ali to the Indian Legislative Council on the ground that he is not sufficiently qualified for that office.

75. The *Shakti*, of the 22nd November, calls the attention of Govern-

Dr. Peck.

ment to the rudeness recently shown to a native patient by Dr. Peck, the Resident Surgeon of the Choonee Lall Seal's Dispensary, in having ordered the former to go out of the room because he had entered it with his shoes on. Such conduct on the part of medical officers is extremely reprehensible.

76. The *Balasore Sambad Bahiká*, of the 8th November, writes the

State of the crops.

following on the state of the crops in the Balasore district :— * * * *

The terrible famine of 1866 is still in the memory of the Uriyas, and now another is apprehended. True, we have not received any detailed statistics regarding the crops, but from what we see and hear we are in a position to state that not more than an 8-anna crop on the average will be reaped in the Balasore district, and in the two neighbouring Tributary States. Should our supposition be true, great distress remains in store for Orissa. No doubt the outturn of the crops to be reaped in the current year will be larger than that of 1866, but then in that year Orissa alone was in danger, while Bengal was in a flourishing condition; whereas in the present year the state of the crops in Bengal also, as may be gathered from newspapers of that Province, is in a bad condition. Consequently, no relief can be expected from that quarter * * * *

Though an 8-anna crop on the average may be expected in Orissa, the people will not much benefit thereby, for on inquiry it will be found that the most productive of the fields are those that are in the direct possession of the zemindars, surbarakars, makadams, and the padhans, these lands being mostly adjacent to some tank or other in the village, and enjoying the benefit of

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ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

CHARU VARTA,
Nov. 19th, 1883.

CHARU VARTA.

SAMBAD PURNACHANDRODAYA,
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SHAKTI,
Nov. 22nd, 1883.

BALASORE
SAMBAD BAHIKA,
Nov. 8th, 1883.

irrigation from those tanks.

The number of zemindars and rich people in Orissa is not very large, and most of their granaries are more or less empty. What they will reap this year will go to fill their own granaries. The poor, who are in the habit of borrowing paddy even in the most favourable years, will have a very small chance of obtaining loans of grain in a season of scarcity. That this is true will be evident from the fact that owners of corn granaries have already locked up their stores, and have ceased granting loans to outsiders. We know not what troubles and miseries are in store for Orissa.

The price of rice will rise inevitably day after day. Ships from the Southern Presidency are bent on purchasing rice in the Balasore Port. They may not succeed in purchasing a large stock in consequence of the increased price of the article, but they will doubtless carry their own provisions with them, which will amount at least to 1,00,000 maunds. The paper goes on warning Government, and requests the Divisional Commissioner to inspect the condition of the standing crops personally.

BALASORE
SAMBAD BAHIKA,
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77. A correspondent of the same paper states that an 8 or 10 anna crop has been lost in the jurisdiction of Basudaipur thana, in the district of Balasore.

The writer brings prominently to notice Baboos Mathuramohan Padhi and Brojabulluv Padhi, who have dexterously thrown an embankment across the river Kansbans, and thereby diverted the course of the stream in the direction of those fields that are in great need of water. The writer further remarks that the Baboos are helping their people in various ways, among which the granting of loans of paddy is one.

BALASORE
SAMBAD BAHIKA.

78. The same paper remarks that the Collector of Balasore proceeded as far as Sora to inspect the condition of the crops in that part of the district.

UTKAL DARPAṆ,
Nov. 11th, 1883.

79. The *Utkal Darpan*, of the 11th November, speaks favourably of the action of Government in requiring Divisional Commissioners to submit early reports regarding the condition of the crops in their respective divisions, and thus enabling Government to adopt necessary measures in time.

UTKAL DIPIKÁ,
Nov. 10th, 1883.

80. The *Utkal Dipiká*, of the 10th November, also approves the action of Government in the present case. It requests all district officers to proceed at once to mofussil, and inspect the condition of the crops personally.

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYA, M.A. & B.L.,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 21th November 1883.